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Sec. 4.01.4 American
Documentary Films
Inc.

U.S. Group to Get Films From Hanoi and Vietcong

By ERIC PACE

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ALGIERS, Dec. 8—An executive of an American film corporation identified with the black power movement and the new left reports that the concern plans to import and distribute 16 North Vietnamese and Vietcong documentary films into the United States in the next 13 months.

The executive, David Castro of American Documentary Films, Inc., said here yesterday that negatives of the first four documentaries had been imported into the United States last week after he had conferred in East Germany with officials of the Hanoi Government and provisional revolutionary government of the Vietcong.

"This represents an effort to show the people of the United States the reality of life in Vietnam as opposed to the distorted picture that we fear has been conveyed by the establishment media," Mr. Castro said in an interview at the Aletti Hotel here.

Mr. Castro, a 36-year-old Californian, identified himself as the director of research and education of the film corporation, which has headquarters in San Francisco.

Films Are 16 mm.

The corporation describes itself as a nonprofit educational organization. It distributes 16-mm. documentary films, largely about the new left, the black power movement and the war in Vietnam.

Mr. Castro said Vietnamese Communists had decided to make the films available because Ho Chi Minh, shortly before his death, had seen and

praised a documentary film produced by the concern.

Mr. Castro declined to say how the four Vietnamese films had been brought into the United States. He said they had subsequent imports would be passed along through the corporation's distribution network to churches, trade unions and libraries as well as campus and black groups.

Mr. Castro said the topics of the four films included the formation of the provisional revolutionary government and role of women on the Communist side of the war.

He said that the Vietnamese officials had given him the films and had promised to provide a limited number of copies for distribution on a nonprofit basis for educational purposes. He said that the corporation would bring in a dozen during 1970.

Mr. Castro, a writer, is the author of an unpublished book, "A Junkie's Guide to Socialism." A lean man with a large mustache, he said during the interview that he had spent seven and a half years in American prisons on narcotics charges.

'Will Be as Gifts'

Jerry Stoll, president of American Documentary Films, Inc., said in a telephone interview from San Francisco last night that he had not yet seen the Vietnamese films. He said that in the past his organization had given copies of films to the Vietnamese. "Whatever films are being sent to us," he said, "will be as gifts from the Vietnamese people."